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" (b) Yes, a report from the Collector was received.

" (c) Relevant extracts from the report [a] are placed on the table of the House."

SRI V. K. RAMASWAMI MUDALIAR :—" Does the Hon. Minister think that the steps taken by the Department were quite adequate and in time? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I do think so."

Appointment of Second-class Magistrates.

* 959 *Q.*—SRI V. GOPALA GOUNDER : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) how many names were selected and submitted by the High Court to the Government for appointment as Second-class Magistrates;

(b) how many of them are—

(1) from the High Court (Ministerial Service),

(2) from Assistant Public Prosecutors in the mufassal,

(3) from the Bar, and

(4) from the Ministerial Judicial Service in the mufassal;

(c) whether any exemption was applied for by the High Court for any of the candidates selected by it for appointment and if so, what action was taken by the Government; and

(d) how many candidates applied for selection as Second-class Magistrates from service (both from the High Court and the mufassal) and how many were interviewed?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) 64 (23 by the High Court and 41 by the Madras Public Service Commission).

" (b) (1) 5

(2) 8

(3) 41

(4) 1

The remaining 9 candidates were selected by the High Court from the Madras Revenue Subordinate Service (4), upper division clerks in the Madras Ministerial Service (3) and the Secretariat Service (2).

" (c) The High Court applied for exemption in favour of 8 candidates. The Government relaxed rules in favour of 7.

" (d) 90 candidates applied (18 from the High Court and 72 from other Departments of Government). 45 candidates were interviewed (5 from the High Court and 40 from other Departments)."

[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 460 infra.

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Sri V. GOPALA GOUNDER :—" The Hon. Minister said that exemption was given in favour of certain candidates selected by the High Court. May I know the reason for granting exemption in view of the fact that there were a number of candidates available?"

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" In certain cases the candidates were over-aged by a few months or a few years. In those cases, we relaxed the rules."

Selection of candidates for appointment as Sub-Magistrates.

* 960 *Q.*—Sri K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there was any interview of candidates for appointment as Sub-Magistrates during the month of March 1954;

(*b*) if so, how many came for interview from the High Court staff and how many from departments other than the High Court;

(*c*) the number of vacancies and the number filled up;

(*d*) whether any appointments were made relaxing the rules; and

(*e*) if so, how many and the reasons therefor?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) *to* (*e*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to the Legislative Assembly question No. (959) tabled by Sri V. Gopala Gounder."

8.50 a.m. Sri V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" Of the candidates selected, how many belong to the Backward Classes and how many are Harijans?"

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" A separate question may be put."

Sri S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" May I get an assurance from the Government, Sir, that at least in future independence of selection will be given to the Public Service Commission and that no exemption will be given, whether it be a recommendation from the High Court or any other official?"

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" It is only in very deserving cases on the recommendation of the High Court and also the Public Service Commission, Government grant the relaxation."

Sri KUNHI MUHAMED SHAFEE :—" Sir, may I know the qualification, age and services of those for whom the extension was requested by the High Court and was granted by the Government and also, may I know whether any candidate had been given exemption because he was under-aged?"

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" A separate question may be put."